

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

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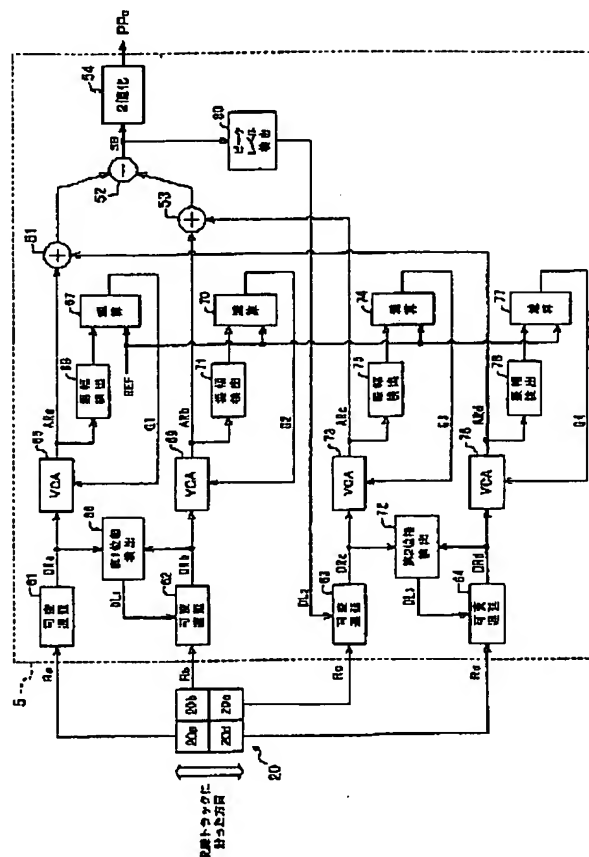
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APPLICANT : PIONEER ELECTRONIC CORP;

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TITLE : DISK PLAYER



**ABSTRACT :** PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To permit the correct detection of prepit even though respective phases or amplitude levels of plural reading signals are deviated each other by obtaining a 1st phase correction reading signal in the manner of correcting the phase of a 1st reading signal by the amount corresponding to the phase difference, and outputting the different value between this 1st phase correction reading signal and a 2nd reading signal as a prepit detecting signal.

**SOLUTION:** By a specified phase correction control, the phases of the reading signals Ra-Rd supplied from each of photoelectric conversion elements 20a-20d of a quadripartite photodetector 20 are put in order, and a margin at the binarization process in a binarization circuit 54 is enlarged, then the prepit level detecting signal PPD is satisfactorily obtained. Also, amplitude levels of the respective reading signals Ra-Rd are made to coincide by variable gain amplifiers 65, 69, 73, 76 to reduce the amplitude level differences of each reading signal. By the phase correction and the amplitude level adjustment, the prepit level is satisfactorily detected based on these reading signals even though the phases and amplitude levels of the respective plural reading signals are not put in order each other.

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